

admitting the SLP, the Hon'ble Supreme Court stayed refund of the amounts collected from the exporters under the system. The appeal is now pending before the Supreme Court.

(c) An amount of Rs. 56.62 Cr. had been collected as Premium amount under the Open Tender System during its operation. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 42.50 lakh was released during 1989 to the Apparel Export promotion Council for export promotion activities.

#### **Economic Collaboration with Portugal**

697. SHRIMATIVASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to establish economic collaboration with Portugal; and

(b) if so, the details of the areas identified or agreement signed for the establishment of economic collaboration with that country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Fisheries and Food processing are two areas identified for possible joint venture projects between the two countries. An agreement of Collaboration was signed between the Portuguese Institute of Foreign Trade and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry in New Delhi on 26.1.1992.

[Translation]

#### **Functioning of DRD Laboratory**

698. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of years since when Defence Research and Development Laboratory is functioning;

(b) whether functioning of the laboratory has been reviewed during the last ten years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the expenditure incurred on this laboratory during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Twenty nine and half years.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The functioning of this laboratory has been reviewed by Scientific Adviser to Raksha Mantri during September 1984 and February 1987. It has also been reviewed by Raksha Rajya Mantri during August 1986 and December 1991. In addition, specific Project/Programme Management Boards also periodically review the research and development projects under progress.

(d) Total expenditure for the last three years is Rs. 193.02 crores.

#### **Sainik Schools**

699. SHRI SUKHDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open more Sainik Schools in the country;

(b) if so, the locations thereof; State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?